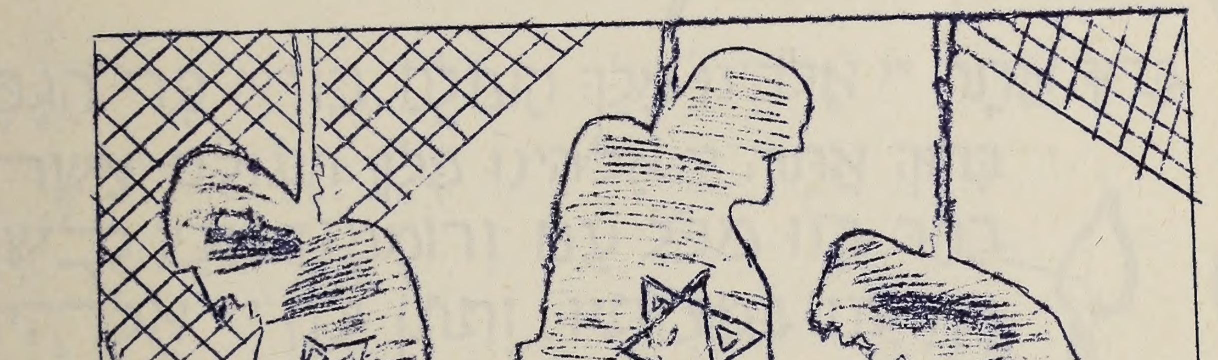
THIRD SEDER

Y.P.Z 1978



HAGGADAH

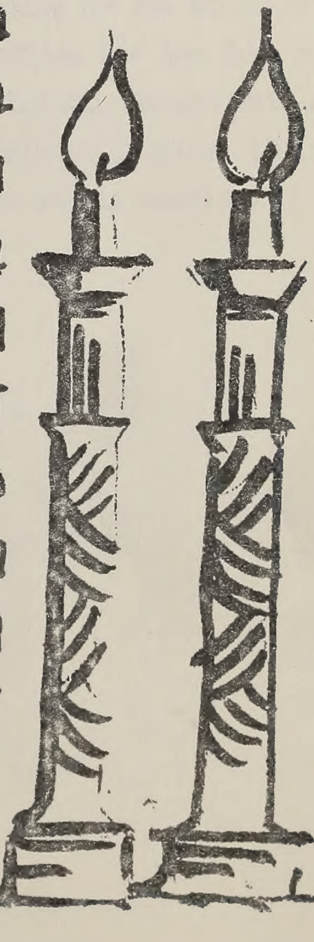
In order to bring the Passover story a bit nearer to today's world - something we are enjoined to do - this Haggadah is centred around the situation today of those few Jews who still live in Arab countries.



קדש

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם בּוֹרֵא פְּרִי הַגָּפֶן

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם אֲשֶׁר
בָּחַר בָּנוּ מִכָּל עָם וְרוֹמְמָנוּ מִכָּל לָשׁוֹן
וְקִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו. וַתִּתֶּן לָנוּ יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ
בְּאַהֲבָה, מוֹעֲדִים לְשִׂמְחָה, חַגִּים
וּזְמַנִּים לְשָׂשׂוֹן אֶת יוֹם חַג הַמַּצּוֹת הַזֶּה,
זְמַן חֵרוּתֵנוּ מִקְרָא קֹדֶשׁ זֵכֶר לִיצִיאַת
מִצְרָיִם. כִּי בָנוּ בָחַרְתָּ וְאוֹתָנוּ קִדַּשְׁתָּ מִכָּל
הָעַמִּים וּמוֹעֲדֵי קָדְשְׁךָ בְּשִׂמְחָה
וּבְשָׂשׂוֹן הִנְחַלְתָּנוּ. בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה,
יי מְקַדֵּשׁ יִשְׂרָאֵל וְהַזְּמַנִּים.

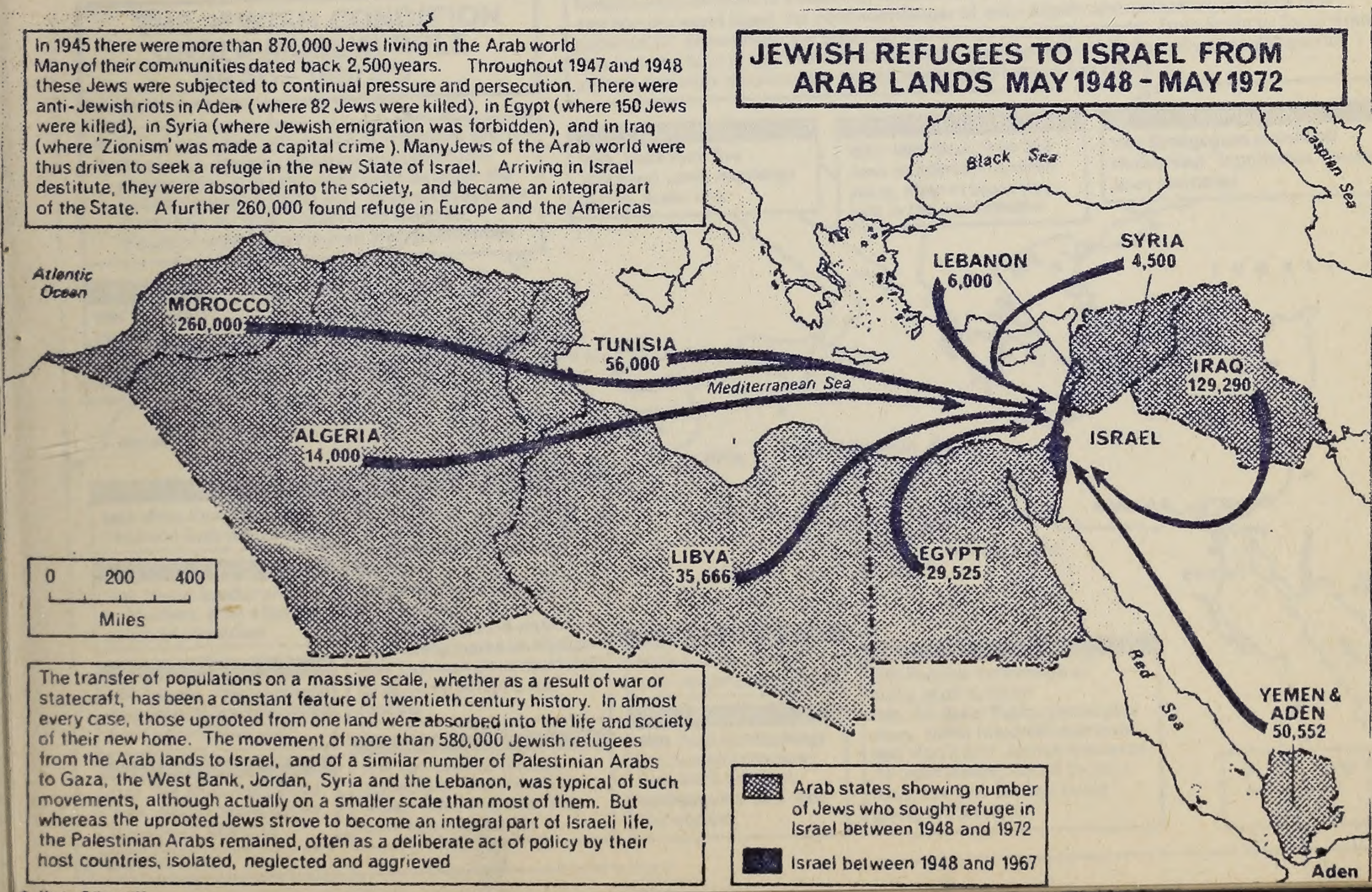


At the World Islamic Congress (Amman, Jordan, 22 September 1967) it was resolved:

Jews in Arab Countries: The Congress is certain that the Jewish communities living in Islamic countries do not appreciate the Moslems' good treatment and protection over the centuries.... The Congress declares that the Jews residing in Arab countries who contact the Zionist circles or the State of Israel do not deserve the protection and care which Islam provides for the free non-Moslem subjects living in Islamic countries. Moslem Islamic Governments should treat them as aggresive combatants. Similarly, the Islamic peoples, individually and collectively, should boycott them and treat them as deadly enemies.

* * * * * *

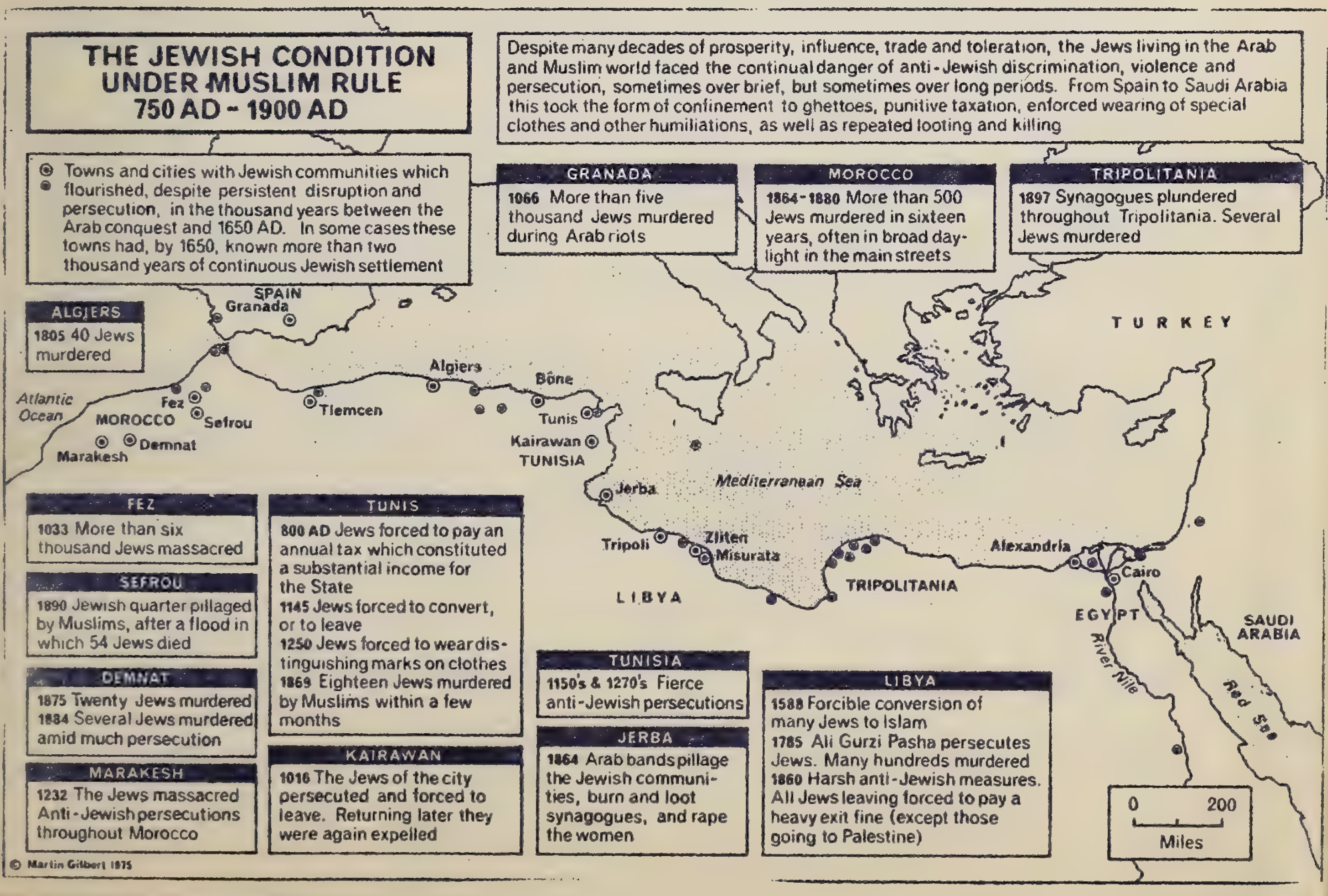
THE NUMBERS WHO LEFT

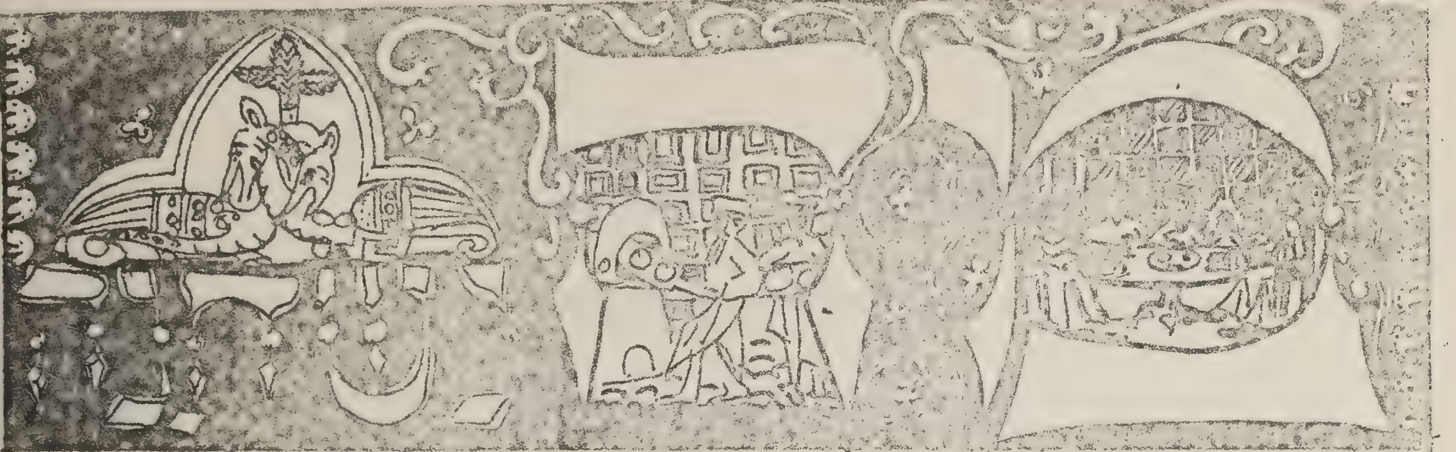


In 1945 there were more than 870,000 Jews living in the Arab world Many of their communities dated back 2,500 years. Throughout 1947 and 1948 these Jews were subjected to continual pressure and persecution. There were anti-Jewish riots in Aden (where 82 Jews were killed), in Egypt (where 150 Jews were killed), in Syria (where Jewish emigration was forbidden), and in Iraq (where 'Zionism' was made a capital crime). Many Jews of the Arab world were thus driven to seek a refuge in the new State of Israel. Arriving in Israel destitute, they were absorbed into the society, and became an integral part of the State. A further 260,000 found refuge in Europe and the Americas

The transfer of populations on a massive scale, whether as a result of war or statecraft, has been a constant feature of twentieth century history. In almost every case, those uprooted from one land were absorbed into the life and society of their new home. The movement of more than 580,000 Jewish refugees from the Arab lands to Israel, and of a similar number of Palestinian Arabs to Gaza, the West Bank, Jordan, Syria and the Lebanon, was typical of such movements, although actually on a smaller scale than most of them. But whereas the uprooted Jews strove to become an integral part of Israeli life, the Palestinian Arabs remained, often as a deliberate act of policy by their host countries, isolated, neglected and aggrieved

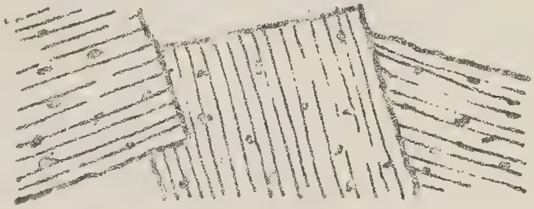
THE NUMBERS WHO REMAINED



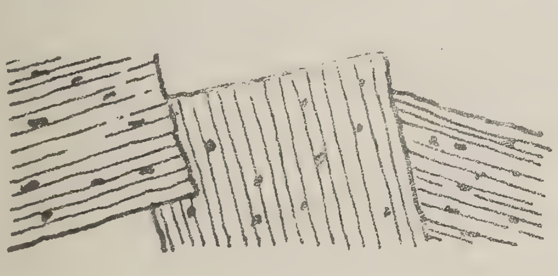


מַה נִּשְׁתַּנָּה הַלַּיְלָה הַזֶּה מִכָּל הַלֵּילוֹת

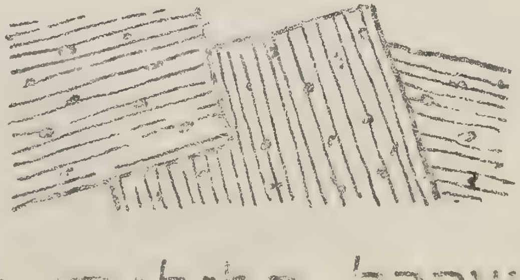
שֶׁבְּכָל הַלֵּילוֹת אָנוּ
אוֹכְלִין חָמֵץ וּמַצָּה
הַלַּיְלָה הַזֶּה כֻּלּוֹ מַצָּה.

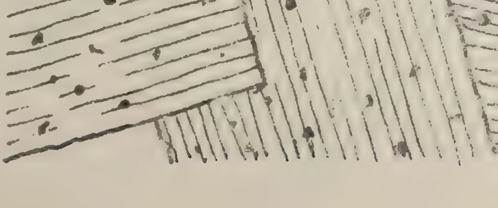


שֶׁבְּכָל הַלֵּילוֹת אָנוּ
אוֹכְלִין שְׁאָר יְרָקוֹת
הַלַּיְלָה הַזֶּה כֻּלּוֹ מָרוֹר.



שֶׁבְּכָל הַלֵּילוֹת אֵין אָנוּ
מַטְבִּילִין אֲפִילוּ פַּעַם אַחַת.
הַלַּיְלָה הַזֶּה שְׁתֵּי פְעָמִים





שֶׁבְּכָל הַלֵּילוֹת אָנוּ
אוֹכְלִין בֵּין יוֹשְׁבִין וּבֵין
מְסֻבִּין הַלַּיְלָה הַזֶּה
כֻּלָּנוּ מְסֻבִּין.

THE JEWS OF SYRIA : THEIR DISABILITIES

1. Their right to emigrate is completely proscribed. This applies even to Jews in Syria who hold foreign passports.

2. Jews are forbidden to move more than 3 kms. from their place of residence. Those wishing to travel further must apply for a police permit – at their peril.

3. Identity cards issued to Jews are stamped in red with the word "Mussawi" (Jew).

4. Jews are normally subject to a 10 p.m. curfew. In some instances, as in Kamishliye, this can be extended to a 24-hour curfew. At one stage, Kamishliye's Jews were confined to their homes for two months.

5. Jewish houses in Kamishliye are marked in red.

6. Jews may not be employed in the public service, in public institutions or in banks.

7. Government and military personnel are forbidden to purchase from Jewish shops.

8. Foreigners may not visit the Jewish quarter unescorted.

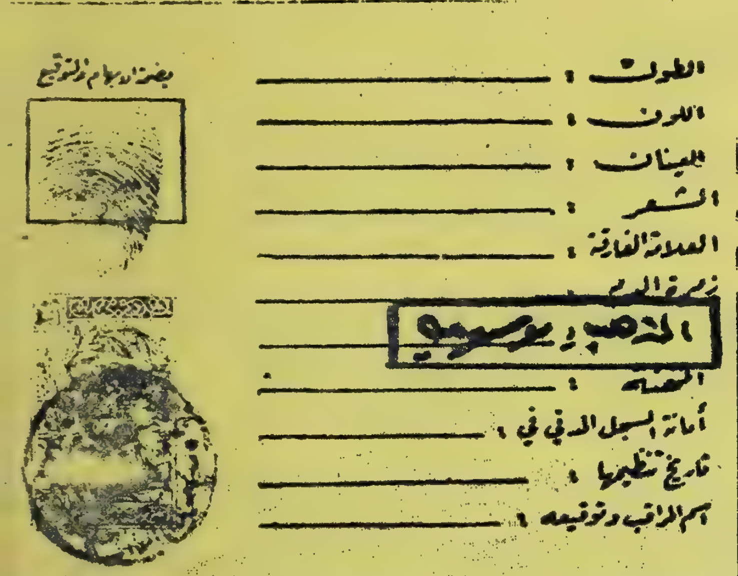
9. Driving licences are neither issued nor renewed to Jews.

10. No telephones are installed in Jewish homes.

11. The possessions of deceased Jews are confiscated by the Government. Their heirs must then pay for the use of the property. If they cannot, it is handed over to the Palestinians.

12. Only two Jewish schools have been permitted to stay open in Damascus. Their directors are Moslems, employed by the secret police. Exams are usually fixed for Saturdays, thereby preventing Orthodox students from participating.

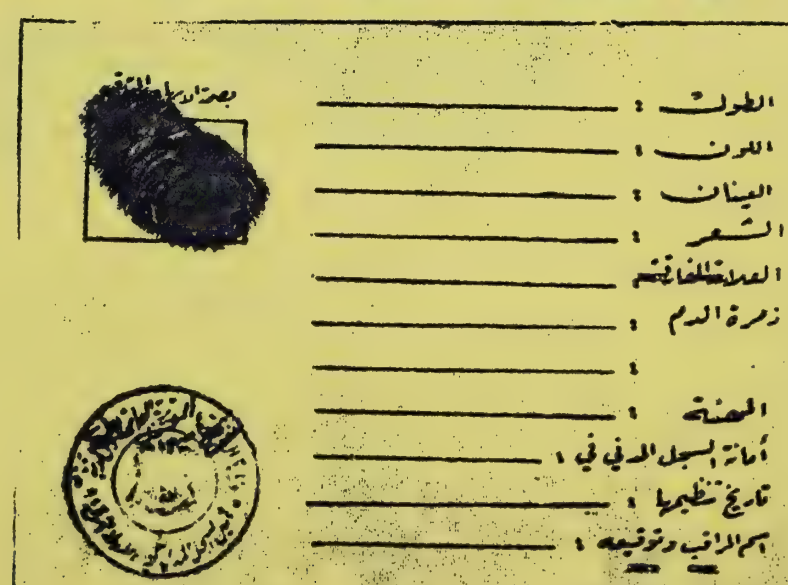
JEW



RELIGION: of HEBREW FAITH

YELLOW STAR

NON JEW



A SYRIAN DISASTER

About 5th March, 1974, 4 young Jewesses from Damascus, Eva Saad and three sisters Toni, Laura and Farah Zebah, were murdered in mysterious circumstances near the Lebanese border, apparently while attempting to escape from Syria across the border into Lebanon.

Their bodies were brought to Damascus by the Syrian authorities and handed over for burial to the Jewish Community. The community staged demonstrations, all shops in the ghetto were closed, and police forcibly quelled the demonstrations.

On 14th March, the Syrian Minister of the Interior announced that it was holding four persons responsible for the murders, amongst them two young Jews, Yosef Shaluh and Azcur Zaluta, one of them a brother-in-law of one of the murdered women. The two arrested Jews are from well-known Damascus Jewish families and are being used as scapegoats by the Syrian authorities for its own dastardly acts.

At about the same time, two more bodies of young Jews, Natan Shaya and Kassem Abadi, were found near the Lebanese border and handed over to the Damascus Community for burial.

The six murdered young Jews were clearly seeking to escape from Syria, where the Jewish Community suffers severe disabilities and periodic persecution and harassment.

Three other Jews have been held in gaol in Damascus for some two years now without cause or trial. These are Nissim Katri, Joseph Swed and Albert Elia. The latter, Secretary of the Lebanese Jewish Community, was kidnapped in Beirut on 6th September 1971 and taken to his Damascus prison.

מוציא מצה

ברוך אתה יי אלהינו מלך העולם המוציא
לחם מן הארץ

Blessd art thou, O Lord our God, King of the Universe who bring forth bread from the earth

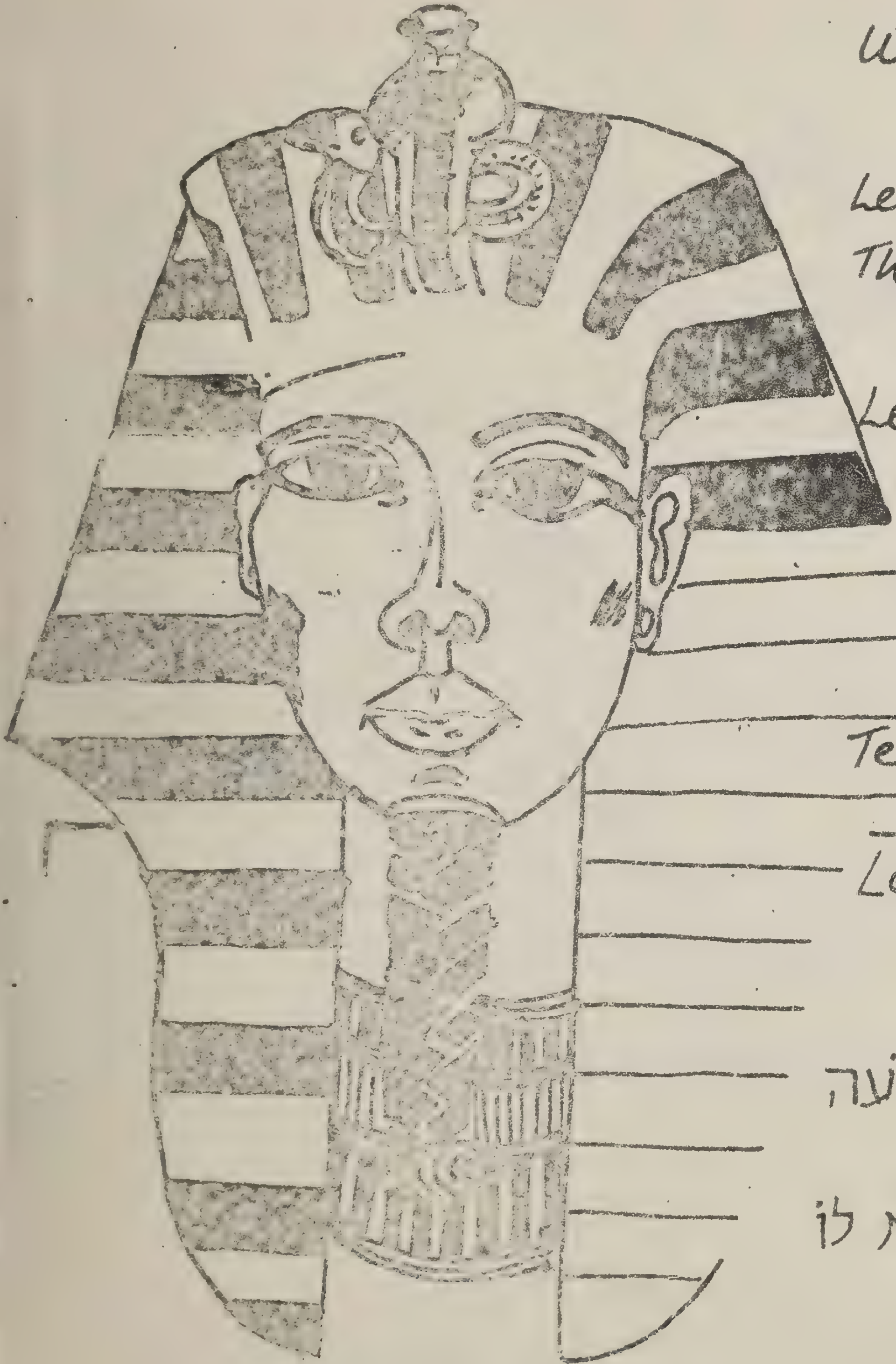
ברוך אתה יי אלהינו מלך העולם אשר קדשנו
במצותיו וצונו על אכילת מצה

Blessed art thou, O Lord our GOD, King of the Universe who has hallowe us with his lows and ordered us to eat Matza

ברוך

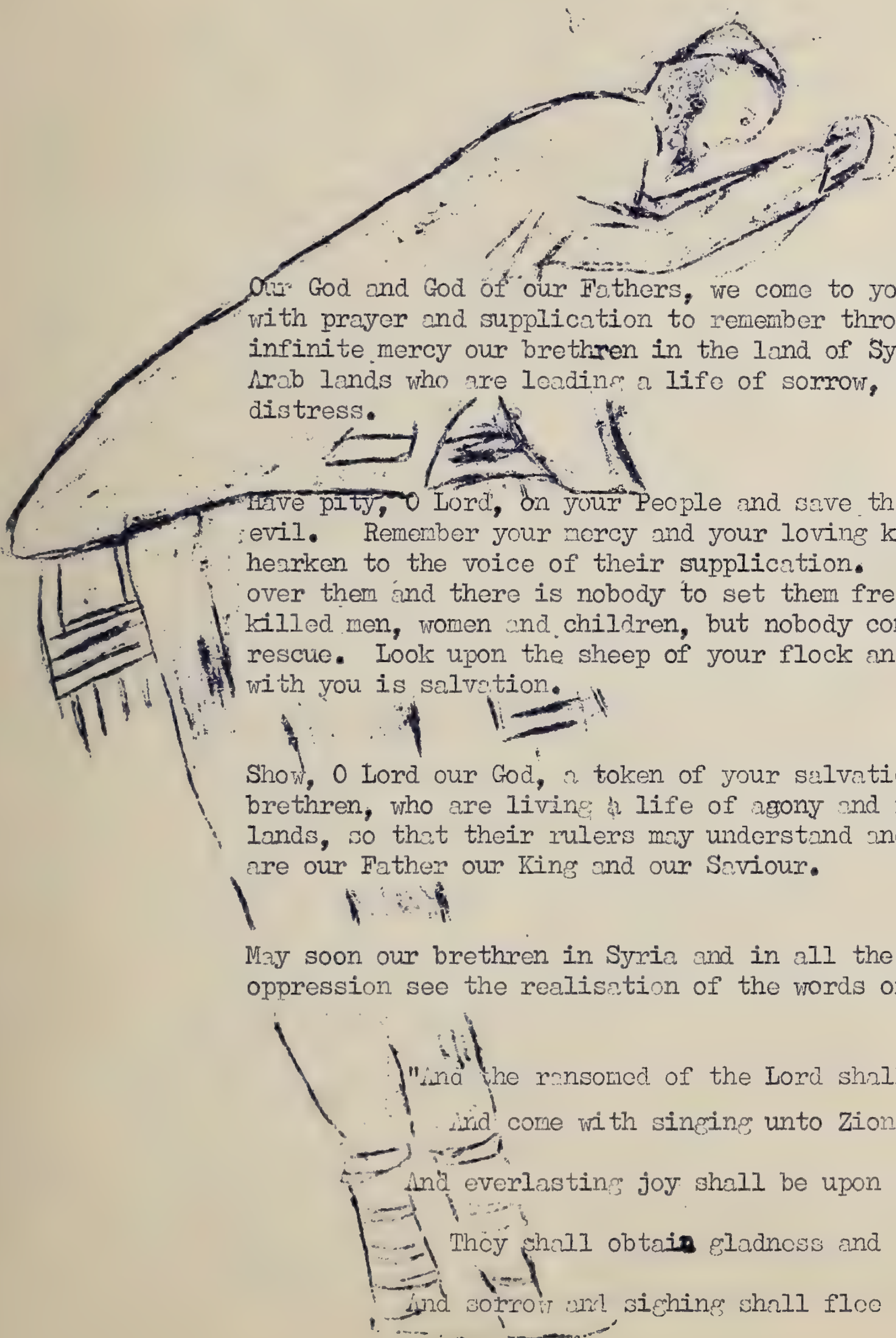
אתה יי אלהינו מלך העולם
הזן את העולם כלו בטובו
בחן בחסד וברחמים. הוא
נותן לחם לכל בשר כי
לעולם חסדו. ובטובו הג־
דול תמיד לא חסר לנו, ואל
יחסר לנו מזון לעולם ועד
בעבור שמו הגדול. כי הוא אל
זן ומפרנס לכל ומטיב לכל
ומכין מזון לכל בריאותיו אשר
ברא. ברוך אתה יי הזן את
הכל.

In 1948, with the proclamation of the State of Israel and the Arab armies' invasion of the new State, the following measures were taken against Jews in several Arab countries. On 14 and 15 May, 1948, in Egypt, Iraq and Syria, Jews were arrested, interrogated and beaten. On 30 May, 1948, Egyptian authorities began the sequestration of Jewish property and forced Jews in Cairo and Alexandria to contribute £E.40,000 + £E.60,000 respectively to the Arab war fund. This was followed by other Arab countries: in Damascus and Baghdad Jews were compelled to give £40,000 and 500,000 Dinars respectively. Furthermore, several Arab countries restricted the movement of Jews, especially emigration in Egypt: 25 May and 26 July 1948; in Iraq: 15 May, 1948; in Syria: mid-1947. Despite government warnings and precautions, bloody riots broke out in June 1948 against the Jews in Oujda and Djerada in Morocco. In Oujda, within three hours, five Jews had been killed, 30 seriously injured, shops and homes sacked. In Djerada, the Jewish population of 100 suffered 39 deaths and 30 severely wounded, the remainder less seriously. An unoffical popular economic boycott against Morocco's Jews was begun. A few days later, the Jewish quarter, the hara, in Tripoli was attacked; "Muslim gangs poured through... killing young and old, women and children, hacking to pieces the bodies of their victims". On 20 June, the Jewish quarter of Cairo was shaken by explosions which left 34 dead and 60 injured; four blocks of Jewish-occupied tenements lay in rubble. From then on, bomb explosions occurred in July, September, October and November, leaving at least 38 dead, 137 injured and much Jewish property destroyed, including large department stores. Attacks and rape of Jews in the streets went on for a week while Egyptian security forces did nothing; only repeated foreign protests and threats compelled the government to bring the rioting to an end. In Iraq, aside from dismissing Jews from all government departments and prohibiting Jewish banks to transact with foreign countries, the government left the anti-Jewish campaign to the police and the military, who took full advantage of their opportunities for blackmail. Many Jews were arrested for "Zionist activities" (including the possession of a map of the Holy Land in a Bible) or "economic crimes". The fines from these "crimes" were paid to the Ministry of Defence and used by the government to finance its war effort. The execution of a Jewish millionaire by court-martial sentence enriched the Government by $5,000,000. Iraqi Jews were permitted to leave the country within a year provided they forfeited their citizenship (Law No.1, dated 3 March, 1950). However, on 10 March, 1951, Law No.5 was adopted freezing the property of those Jews who emigrated. A few days later, heavy economic restrictions and penalties were imposed on Jews who chose to remain in the country and retain rheir citizenship.



When Israel was in
Egypt land
Let my people go!
They worked so hard
they could not stand
Let my people go!
Go down Moses
Way down to
Egypt land
Tell ol' Pharoah ~
Let my people go!

מַהֵר מֹשֶׁה צַוֵּה פַּרְעֹה
שַׁלַּח נָא אֶת עַמִּי
מִצְוַת הָאֵל אֱמֹר נָא לוֹ
שַׁלַּח נָא אֶת עַמִּי
קוּמָה לֵךְ נָא
אַל כַּבֵּד הַלֵּב הָרַע
צַו לוֹ בִּשְׁמִי



Our God and God of our Fathers, we come to you today with prayer and supplication to remember through your infinite mercy our brethren in the land of Syria and other Arab lands who are leading a life of sorrow, oppression and distress.

Have pity, O Lord, on your People and save them from all evil. Remember your mercy and your loving kindness and hearken to the voice of their supplication. Cruel people rule over them and there is nobody to set them free. They have killed men, women and children, but nobody comes to their rescue. Look upon the sheep of your flock and save them, for with you is salvation.

Show, O Lord our God, a token of your salvation to our brethren, who are living a life of agony and fear in Arab lands, so that their rulers may understand and know that you are our Father our King and our Saviour.

May soon our brethren in Syria and in all the lands of their oppression see the realisation of the words of your prophets:

"And the ransomed of the Lord shall return,

And come with singing unto Zion,

And everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;

They shall obtain gladness and joy,

And sorrow and sighing shall flee away."

תפילה

אלהנו ואלהי אבותינו באנו
לפניך היום בתפילה ובתחנונים
לזכור ברחמיך הרבים את אחינו
בארץ סוריה שנמצאים בצרה
ומצוקה. חוסה ה' על עמך
ותצילם מכל רע. זכור רחמיך
וחסדיך ושמע לקול שועם.
אכזרים מושלים בם ואין פורק
מידם. הרגו אנשים נשים וטף
ואין מציל. הבט נא והושיעה
נא צאן מרעיתך כי לך הישועה.
הראה ה' אלהינו אות לטובה
לאחינו החיים חיי יגון ופחד
בארצות ערב. יכירו וידעו
המושלים בם כי אתה אבינו
מלכנו ומושיענו קיים בקרוב
באחינו בסוריה ובכל ארצות
שיעבודם דברי עבדיך הנביאים
ופדויי ה' ישבון ובאו ציון ברנה
ושמחת עולם על-ראשם ששון
ושמחה ישיגו ונסו יגון ואנחה.


PULL-OUT PAGE
PROTEST.
FREE SYRIAN JEWRY